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# Invade The Air Waves

by Jeanne Wallerius

THE spoon and thimble days are past. Today, home economics means more than cooking and sewing. The science has developed to include many new phases. Home economics has expanded and home economists have broadened with it.

Ruth Hackett, Mary Jean Bond and LaVonne Angstrom are only three of many home economics students who have discovered interests outside their immediate fields. They have successfully combined these activities with the science of homemaking in a manner that promises fascinating new horizons for them.

These three have discovered the lure of the air-waves. They're usually dashing from foods lab or the nursery school to Iowa State's station, WOI.

## Ruth Hackett

Ruth Hackett, technical journalism senior, may often be found deep in a book of Greek mythology or poring over a radio script for the WOI children's show. Ruth chose child development for her minor. She is looking forward to a job writing radio programs for children and she wants to "know more about children."

Ask the 200 or more Quicksilver fans who listen to WOI every Monday through Friday at 4:45 p.m. They will tell you that Ruth Hackett weaves an exciting tale. In her scripts the god Mercury, known as Quicksilver, tells stories adapted from Greek mythology. So far, he has related 18 of them. It takes Ruth 2 hours to read and adapt each day's adventure prepared a week in advance.

Radio script writing caught her interest in her freshman year when she heard Adelaide Shaw's adaptation of Peter Pan on WOI. During her sophomore year at Drake University, Des Moines, she took a course in radio writing and did some musical variety scripts. Last year, Ruth turned out nine 30-minute scripts for a detective story series. She adapted thrillers such as "100 in the Dark" and some Sherlock Holmes yarns.

During spring quarter WOI featured a 15-minute, 5 days a week, serial from "Ozma of Oz," one of the Wizard of Oz books. However, the Oz series didn't give enough actors a chance to air their talents, so this fall Ruth delved into Greek mythology.

## Mary Jean Bond

Mary Jean Bond, home economics education junior, figures in the Quicksilver program, too, but in the dramatic field instead of on the literary side. M. J. plays the part of Julie. She helps Quicksilver set the scene for the story by talking with him about it.

M. J.'s immediate plans upon graduation are "to teach a year and then get married. And if we live in

*Ruth Hackett, technical journalism senior, finds script writing and editing a valuable form of radio experience.*



Ames, I'd like to work at WOI. Because I like people and education gives one a chance to work with them. I chose the education field," she explained. Speech is her minor. M. J. has been active in dramatics since the eighth grade. In her senior year of high school, she wrote a script on tuberculosis that was chosen to be read over the college station. M. J. read it herself. Then she started attending Radio Workshop and has been an active member ever since.

## LaVonne Angstrom

The youngest of the trio of radio enthusiasts may be lacking in years, but she already has some impressive radio experience behind her. LaVonne Angstrom is a textiles and clothing freshman and a veteran of commercial radio and television broadcasts.

Despite her active interest in the air waves, LaVonne said she realized the importance of having something to talk about, so she enrolled as a home economics student and devotes her spare moments to speech and radio work.

Her previous training includes 4 years of dramatic lessons outside of school, and she took part in radio dramas over KSO and KRNT during the war. The programs were sponsored by Radio Council and were patriotic in nature.

One of the first television commercials was broadcast from the Iowa State Fair. The young miss in plaid shirt and brown slacks who appeared in it was LaVonne!

These three women are among the many at Iowa State who have discovered that radio training is helpful, informative—and fun.